Divisional of U.S.S.N. 09/718,693

Filed: August 22, 2003

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

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In the specification

Please replace the paragraph on page 1, lines 10-11, with the following paragraph:

This application is a divisional of U.S.S.N. 09/718,693 filed November 22, 2000, which

claims priority to U.S.S.N. 60/167,212 filed November 24, 1999, by John B. Harley, Judith Ann

James, and Kenneth M. Kaufman.

Please replace the paragraph on page 35, lines 9-22 with the following:

Example 1: Preparation of anti-latent EBV antibodies.

To generate an E. coli LMP-2A expression plasmid, a 1,029 bp SalI/NsiI fragment was

removed from the LMP-2A cDNA clone (obtained from Dr. Mike Kurilla, formerly from the

Department of Pathology, University of Virginia Health Sciences Center) (Figure 1). This

fragment of LMP-2A cDNA corresponds to bp 789-1817 of the GenBank LMP-2A entry

(Accession #M24212) and encodes amino acids 259-497 of LMP-2A as well as some of the 3'

untranslated sequence. The fragment was ligated into SalII/PstI digested pMal-C2 (New

England Biolabs, Beverely, MA). The resulting construct encodes a maltose binding protein

(MBP) LMP-2A fusion protein (construct #1). Separating the maltose binding protein and

LMP-2A is a run of 20 arginines and a Factor Xa cleavage site. The Factor Xa cleavage site

allows the LMP-2A peptide fragment to be separated and isolated from the maltose binding

protein moiety.

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Please replace the paragraph on page 36, lines 17-23, with the following:

E. coli cells transfected with the truncated MBP-LMP-2A fusion protein plasmid

(construct #1) expressed the MBP-LMP-2A fusion protein (Figure 2). This was based on the

presence of a 69,000 molecular weight protein on SDS-PAGE and Western blot detection using

rabbit anti-MBP polyclonal sera. The LMP-2A fusion protein encodes 212 amino acids of the

transmembrane domains and the C-terminal 27 amino acids, which are intracellular, as opposed

to the 351 amino acids in the mature protein.

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